Here All Along: Finding Meaning, Spirituality, and a Deeper Connection to Life-in Judaism by Sarah Hurwitz

1. Foundational Questions

- What does it mean to be an "adult Jewish woman" in contemporary America?
- How does Hurwitz's experience align with or challenge your own?

2. Personal Jewish Journey

- Why do you think Hurwitz contrasts her professional success with her earlier Jewish experience?
- Have you ever felt similarly excelling in one domain but sensing a gap in religious or spiritual growth?

3. "Aha!" Moments vs. Daily Discipline

- Hurwitz mentions both ecstatic spiritual awakenings and steady, soulful learning.
 - Which of her moments felt most impactful to you—and why?
 - How do you balance sporadic inspiration with routine spiritual study or practice in your own life?

4. Finding Language for the Divine

- The memoir isn't about "finding God," but about finding the language to discuss Torah, God, and Jewish rituals.
 - How important is language and framing when it comes to spiritual connection?
 - o Can you share a moment when a new term, ritual, or reading transformed your understanding?

5. Modalities of Jewish Learning

- Hurwitz explores various Jewish education styles—from meditation to adult ed classes.
 - Which ones did you find most compelling or surprising?
 - Are there practices here you'd be curious to incorporate into your own life?

6. The Role of Community

- She notes how traditional communal milestones—marriage, parenting—often trigger more teaching moments than anything else.
 - Has your personal sense of Jewish community been triggered by milestones, or by something else?
 - What's the role of communal life in supporting your spiritual exploration?

7. From "What does Judaism mean to you?" to "What does Judaism mean to me?"

- Hurwitz urges this shift from external to personal meaning-making.
 - Do you find yourself more passive ("What Judaism expects of me?") or active ("What does it mean to me?")?
 - How important is this shift for a meaningful spiritual life?

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8. Secular vs. Sacred Identity

- Hurwitz's memoir underlines the tension between her secular achievements (Harvard Law, political speechwriting) and her yearning for sacred knowledge.
 - Can secular versus spiritual success coexist harmoniously?
 - How have you experienced this duality?

9. Bridging Generational Gaps

- The memoir speaks to a generation of educated Jews lacking adult spiritual growth.
 - Do you see this in your peers?
 - How might Hurwitz's book inspire or challenge the spiritual trajectories of younger Jewish adults?

10. Suggested Next Steps

- Hurwitz includes reading lists and invites continued exploration.
 - Which of her recommended books or practices are you drawn to next?
 - Will you pursue a text, a meditation, or a class—and why?

11. Your "Here, All Along" Moment

• Did you experience a moment in the memoir that felt like a personal epiphany—something you've always known but only now recognized? If so, describe that moment and how it impacted you.

12. Judaism as Practice vs. Ethnicity

- Hurwitz's quest wasn't for cultural identity alone but for a rooted practice.
 - How do you view the balance between Judaism as heritage and as living practice?
 - o Do you wish to shift toward one or the other?